

Message Text

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20

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 CU-04

RSR-01 /084 W

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R 130650 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1411

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE THESSALONIKI 222

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS, GR

SUBJECT: STUDENT SITUATION: POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL SITUATION
AND THESSALONIKI STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS CONGRESS

REF: THESSALONIKI'S 221

FOLLOWING ARE COMMENTS ON REFTEL SUBJECTS:

1. POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL SITUATION: IN RECEIVING MINISTER BRANDIN AND CONGEN APRIL 12, TWO UNIVERSITY VICE RECTORS (HADJIOTIS AND TSIROYANNIS) OBSERVED THAT CAMPUS SITUATION CALM, AS INDEED IT WAS, BUT ADDED WITH SIGNIFICANT EMPHASIS "FOR THE MOMENT." THEY CONFIRMED THAT STUDENT GATHERING AT POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL PREVIOUS DAY HAD DISPERSED WITHOUT INCIDENT. THEY ALSO STATED THAT POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL ABSTENTION RATE FROM EARLIER EXAMS HAD EXCEEDED FIFTY PERCENT.

2. CONGRESS OF THESSALONIKI STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS: ARCHBISHOP IAKOVOS OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA, ACCOMPANIED BY UNIVERSITY RECTOR SDRAKAS MADE BRIEF APPEARANCE AT APRIL 12 SESSIONS AND WAS POORLY RECEIVED BY HUNDRED STUDENT DELEGATES. FOLLOWING HIS DEPARTURE, LAW SCHOOL STUDENT TZARAS, WITH APPROVAL OF OTHERS PRESENT, CRITICIZED IAKOVOS FOR "DE-HELLENIZING" GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN U. S. AND STUDENT FACTION ATTEMPTED TO INTRODUCE RESOLUTION CENSURING ARCHBISHOP. (THIS POSSIBLY EXPLAINS
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ARCHBISHOP'S MANIFEST DISTRACTION AT LATER LUNCHEON ATTENDED BY MINISTER AND CONGEN, DURING WHICH HE REPEATEDLY INTERRUPTED CONVERSATION TO REQUEST INFORMATION RE COMPANION- AIDE WHO WAS BUSY ON TELEPHONE.)

3. SECOND CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE EXPECTED TO SURFACE LATER IN CONGRESS IS STUDENT REQUEST FOR ABOLITION OF LIFE TENURE FOR PROFESSORS. STUDENTS CLAIMED TO HAVE RECEIVED TACIT SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE FROM MINED GANDONAS, AND PLAN TO RAISE SUBJECT AGAIN DURING HIS VISIT APRIL 14. REPRESENTATIVES OF DENTAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION ALSO PARTICULARLY VEHEMENT IN DENOUNCING ALLEGED POSITION OF UNIVERSITY AUTHORITIES THAT BOYCOTT OF CLASSES AND STUDENT ACTIVISM ARE COMMUNIST- INSPIRED.
BRENNAN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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